

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
EUGENE DISTRICT OFFICE
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
And
DECISION RECORD

Aster Vialis Habitat Enhancement
EA OR090-04-12

Background:

An Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed *Aster Vialis* Habitat Enhancement project were prepared by the Upper Willamette Resource Area, Eugene District. The project would occur at 4 sites. This Decision Record only address two sites: (1) Papunfus located in T. 19 S, R. 2 W, Sec. 15 and (2) RFI #9 located in T. 14 S., R. 2 W., Sec. 28. Decisions regarding the other two sites will be made in the future and documented in a separate Decision Record.

Purpose and Objective

The purpose and objective of the project is to maintain or enhance *Aster Vialis* populations by opening the canopy, removing invasive plants and competing vegetation, and creating a viable seedbed for *Aster*.

Public Comment:

The EA was advertised on May 5, 2004 in the Eugene Register Guard as available for a 30-day public review period. One comment was received during the review period. The comment did not concern the actions proposed on the 2 sites that this decision record covers.

Finding of No Significant Impact:

On the basis of the information contained in the attached Environmental Assessment, and all other information available to me, it is my determination that implementation of the Proposed Action will not have significant environmental impacts not already addressed in the *Record of Decision (ROD) for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (April 1994) and the Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (June 1995)*, and the *Record of Decision for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines (2001)* with which this EA is in conformance, and does not, in and of itself, constitute a major federal action having significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, a new environmental impact statement or supplement to the existing environmental impact statement is not necessary and will not be prepared.

Decision:

Based on the analysis documented in the Environmental Assessment No. 0R090-EA-04-12 and the Finding of No Significant Impact, it is my decision to implement the actions for these 2 sites as described in Alternative 2. (There is no difference in the actions proposed between Alternative 2 and 3 for these 2 sites). At the two sites, 6 acres would be treated. Treatments would open the canopy by 50% to 75% by removing overstory trees (< 24" diameter), cutting brush and removing saplings. Weeds would be removed with maintenance weeding occurring after project

implementation. Snags and down logs would be created in the project areas. Monitoring would be done before and after treatment.

Decision Rationale:

This action was selected because it meets the purpose and need described in the EA. This alternative would meet specific management recommendations that have been developed for *Aster Vialis*. Alternative 1, the no action alternative, would not meet the purpose and need.

Administrative Review Opportunities:

The effective date of this decision shall be the date of publication of the Notice of Decision and FONSI in the Register Guard. Any person adversely affected by this decision may appeal it to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR, Part 4. If an appeal is taken, a notice of appeal must be filed in this office (P.O. Box 10226, Eugene Oregon 97440, 2890 Chad Drive, Eugene) within 30 days from the date of this decision. In an appeal the appellant has the burden of showing that the decision is in error.

Approved by:

Emily Rice
Upper Willamette Resource Area Field Manager

9/16/04
Date